

New Hampshire  
State Board of Education  
Minutes of the November 21, 2013 Meeting

The State Board of Education met at the Monadnock Regional High School in East Swanzey, NH. Dr. Leo P. Corriveau, Superintendent of Schools, welcomed the Board to the school and said he was pleased to host this Board meeting and is proud of what the State Board is doing. Dr. Corriveau said that Commissioner Barry is a great leader. Dr. Corriveau introduced Karen Craig, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Jennie Calnan, Reading Teacher Emerson, Finalist, NH Teacher of the year 2013-14, Jed Butterfield, Principal, Pat Bauries, Chair of the Monadnock Regional School Board, and Michael Blair, Vice Chairman. The following presentations were presented: Strategic Plan, Balanced Scorecard, and Points of Light by Superintendent Corriveau; CLIF Grant by Sue Megas-Russell, Kathy Mullen, Teachers, Cutler Elementary School, and Patrice Campbell, Library Media Specialist, MRMHS; Chrome Book Initiative by Michael Blair, Chair, Technology Committee, Neal Richardson, Director of Information Technology; ACES 93 Program by Troy Kennett, Director of Student Support Services, and Darlene Ayotte, Director; SMART Program by Troy Kennett and John Samperisi, Teacher Coordinator; Teacher Evaluation Model by Karen Craig and Adrienne Noel, Principal, Gilsum Elementary School and Associate Principal for the District elementary schools; Science Facility Projects – Jane Fortson, Business Administrator, and David LaPointe, Facilities Manager, and KSC/MRMHS Science Partnership Project by Jed Butterfield, Principal, Gerry Babonis, Chair, Science Department, and five Honors Biology students: Tyler Adams, John Schnyer, Eric Wollert, Madison Marotte, and Michael Peter.

**AGENDA ITEM I. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the State Board of Education was convened at 10:10 a.m. at the Monadnock Regional High School in East Swanzey, NH. Tom Raffio presided as Chairman.

Members present: Tom Raffio, Cindy C. Chagnon, Gary W. Groleau, Helen G. Honor, Emma Rous (arrived at 10:30), and James C. Schubert. Gregory Odell was unable to be present. Also in attendance were Virginia M. Barry, Commissioner of Education, and Paul K. Leather, Deputy Commissioner of Education.

**AGENDA ITEM II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

James Schubert led the pledge of allegiance.

**AGENDA ITEM III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Deborah Olszta spoke of her concerns regarding Ed 306.25. Doris Hohensee spoke regarding protecting the role of parents in Ed 306.25. Bonnie Dunham spoke regarding the career and technical education piece where the rules should not be used as a barrier to disabled children. William Matson spoke of this concerns regarding Troy. William MacKenzie asked if there would be a psychologist in each school. Peter Martin spoke about the group insurance plan for districts.

**AGENDA ITEM IV. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION**

A. Update on Charter Schools – Chairman Raffio said that two new charter school applications will be coming forward.

B. Update on NH Department of Education ESEA Flexibility Waiver – Paul Leather said the Department continues to work with priority and focus schools for Title I. The Department is continuing to work on educator effectiveness. There is a meeting planned on school improvement and data instruction.

C. Update on Manchester School District – Paul Leather reported that the Manchester School District has submitted a class enrollment plan. The Department has received a copy of the class size in the district. There are still issues in the middle school. Manchester submitted an Innovative Zone Implementation Plan and a technology implementation plan, as well.

D. Update on Unity - Dr. Judith Fillion, Jeff Blaney, Shawn Randall, and Bob McDevitt, were present at the meeting. The Unity School Board came to the State Board meeting with the final design plans and specifications hoping to hand them to Ron Anstey of the State Fire Marshal's Office. Mr. Anstey was not present and Mr. Blaney offered to deliver the plans to the State Fire Marshall's Office. Mr. Blaney also mentioned there had been some recent conversations between the Department of Revenue Administration, School Building Aid program, and the SAU Office. As a result of the conversations, the School Building Aid Office provided the SAU with a copy of the School Building Aid application and Administrative Rules Ed 321 'Steps in the Procedure for Approval of School Building Aid.'

E. Board Retreat Follow Up – Chairman Raffio said it was a very robust retreat. Chairman Raffio said that the Board needs to be thinking about the goals for the Board and the overarching strategy for charter schools.

## **AGENDA ITEM V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

A. Town of Troy: Petition for Declaratory Ruling and Board's Request for Legal Opinion from Attorney General – The State Board of Education is in receipt of a Petition for Declaratory Judgment challenging the March 12, 2013 Monadnock Regional School District's adoption of article Seven to amend the apportionment formula from the Town of Troy. Silas Little, Esq., James O'Shaughnessy, Esq., and Tom Matson, Selectman for Troy, were present. Chairman Raffio read sections of the November 19, 2013 letter to Attorney Little. Chairman Raffio also read parts of the November 21, 2013 letter to Attorneys Little and O'Shaughnessy which stated that the State Board of Education formally requested a legal opinion of the Attorney General's Office pursuant to Ed 215.02. Specifically, the State Board is seeking an opinion as to whether it has the jurisdictional authority to grant the requested relief within Troy's petition.

B. Discussion on Minimum Standards – Paul Leather, David Ruff and Keith Burke were present to address the final proposal of the Minimum Standards. Board members had copies of the Final Proposal with revisions in red. The Department has made changes to the Initial Proposal in order to respond to comments from public testimony and the Department of Justice. Upon approval, the Final Proposal will be submitted to the JLCAR for its review. After a public hearing and approval by the JLCAR, the State Board may then adopt the final rule at its next regularly scheduled meeting. David Ruff discussed sections for Career and Technical Education programs and Comprehensive School Psychological Services that Board members had some concern about. The following changes were endorsed by Board members: on page 25 under "g" after "that" add "and parental consent." On page 50 under "b" and after "accommodations" add "and/or modifications," Mr Ruff said that all students will have access and be supported by career and technical education, as per state and federal statutory requirements.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, that the State Board of Education adopt the Final Proposal for Ed 306, Minimum Standards For Public School Approval.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

**AGENDA ITEM VI. NEW DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

There was no New Department Business at this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM VII. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

A. Final Proposal – Selected Sections of Ed 500 and Ed 600 Professional Credentials, Career and Technical Ed Teacher and Specialty Certification, Visual Arts Teacher Elementary Mathematics Specialist for Grades K-6, Physical Science for Grades 7-12 – A vote is needed by the Board to adopt the Final Proposal. The Department has made changes to the initial proposal in order to respond to comments from the staff attorney, who reviewed the rule for the JLCAR. The Final Proposal will be submitted to the JLCAR for its review. After a public hearing and approval by the JLCAR, the Board may then adopt the final rule at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, that the State Board of Education adopt the Final Proposal for Ed 504 Professional Credentials, Ed 507.02 and .03 Career and Technical Ed Teacher and Specialty Certification, Ed 507.09 and Ed 612.01 Visual Arts Teacher, Ed 507.251 and Ed 614.114 Elementary Mathematics Specialist for grades K-6, Ed 507.51 Physical Science for Grades 7-12.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

**AGENDA ITEM VIII. NEW BOARD BUSINESS**

A. Priorities of State Board - Chairman Raffio listed the following items as priorities of the Board: Charter schools, goals, dropout rates and common core standards.

Deputy Commissioner Leather said that Great Schools Partnership is in four other states and is involved with high school redesign. David Ruff is involved in a multi-million grant that is leading us on.

Chairman Raffio said the Business and Education Coalition meets on a regular basis. There are STEM initiatives out there and this group wants to be involved with them such as the NH Scholars Program.

Chairman Raffio said that Dr. Bonstingl's leadership program for students was hosted by Northeast Delta Dental recently. It was encouraging to see fourth and fifth graders emerging as young leaders. Delta Dental was one of the sponsors.

Emma Rous reported on the meeting she attended sponsored by the National Governors' Association. NH is one of six states receiving grants to help implement the Common Core Standards. The value of the Common Core Standards is having consistent, higher standards for students grade by grade, school by school; helping parents know where students stand; and closing the gap between NAEP and NECAP scores. Another attendee, Lucille Jordan, president of Nashua Community College said that students leaving high school and entering college have to be prepared, and higher ed is working to align college expectations with Common Core Standards. Superintendent John Freeman from Pittsfield attended and reported that his teachers are working together and are very enthusiastic about the Common Core Standards. Since curriculum specialists are key to implementing the standards, it will be important to fund the DOE positions of Language Arts and Mathematics specialists.

Cindy Chagnon recently attended and presented at NASBE's College and Career Readiness Policy Institute: "Implementing the Common Core" in Albany, NY on November 8. Ms. Chagnon spoke about New Hampshire's work on professional development and how we have utilized our existing systems in the implementation of the Common Core throughout the state instead of spending vast amounts of money with outside experts. On November 14, Ms. Chagnon was part of a three person Webinar titled, "Developing a Statewide System for Professional Learning: Crossing State Borders." Ms. Chagnon spoke about the work New Hampshire has done over the last decade to improve professional development in the state and align it with our teacher evaluations and recertification system. Ms. Chagnon described how the Department has worked effectively with the School Administrative Units here and blended state and local control policies in teacher evaluation and professional development. Joellen Killion from Learning Forward spoke about how New Hampshire has been a leader in professional development and making the system relevant to true teacher improvement and learning. Ms. Chagnon said that when the state board member from Georgia spoke, she talked about the \$40 million or so that they had received from Race to the Top funding and how they had utilized it in developing their new professional development and teacher evaluation systems.

**AGENDA ITEM IX. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Barry reported on the following items:

1. The Phase Two Teacher Effectiveness document is being sent to the press and will be online in December.
2. The SIG schools are in their third year of teacher evaluation as a result of receiving additional funds.
3. The Title I flexibility waiver tools are based on five key components found in the Task Force I document.
4. Want to congratulate Monadnock Regional School District as the teachers are fully involved in their teacher effectiveness plan.
5. Has been meeting with the School Nurses Association and State Board of Nursing as the School Health rules will be updated. They need support from the Department. We no longer have a school nurse consultant. New Hampshire has received a \$9 million dollar SAMSHA grant to help with the bullying issue. An RFP has gone out and Laconia, Rochester, and Concord will be receiving the funds. McKenzie Harrington from our Department will be working with Health and Human Services.
6. The Department is working on the program approval process. There will be a different process shared in January. We will be piloting this process in the spring.
7. We do need a language and reading specialist and a math person to be available to participate in the school approval process. We need consistency on the teams for school approval.
8. We will be working on program approval for higher education institutions. There are several items that need to be discussed: admissions requirements, quality of faculty, relevancy of actual curriculum in schools, a progress report for every year. Franklin Pierce will be piloting the new process using peer review.

**AGENDA ITEM X. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business at this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM XI. CONSENT AGENDA****A. Minutes of October 24, 2013 Meeting**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by James Schubert, to approve the Minutes of October 24, 2013.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

**B. Minutes of October 24, 2013 Hearing**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, to approve the Minutes of the October 24, 2013 Hearing.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by a 5 – 1 vote with Helen Honorow abstaining, and with the Chairman voting.

**C. Notes from State Board Retreat October 31, 2013**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, to approve the Notes from State Board Retreat October 31, 2013.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

**D. Newfound AREA School District Withdrawal Study Committee Report** – A vote by the Board is needed to accept the report of the Newfound Area School District Withdrawal Study Committee and place the report on file. RSA 195:25 requires that a cooperative withdrawal study committee file its report with the Board within 180 days of the formation of the committee. Since the report of the committee is that the withdrawal of Danbury is feasible but not suitable, no withdrawal plan will be submitted. The Board's acceptance of the report will complete the withdrawal study process. The report will be placed in the Department's Newfound Area School District file.

MOTION: Gary Groleau made the motion, seconded by Helen Honorow, that the State Board of Education accept the report from the Newfound Area School District and place the report on file.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

**AGENDA ITEM XII. TABLED ITEMS**

- A. Student/Con-Val School Board – SB-FY-13-04-008
- B. Tuition Contract Between Hooksett School District and Manchester School District

These items may be taken up at the December Board meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM XIII. NONPUBLIC SESSION**

The Board did not go into Nonpublic Session at this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Cindy Chagnon made the motion, seconded by Gary Groleau, to adjourn the meeting at 12 noon.

VOTE: The motion was adopted by unanimous vote of the Board present, with the Chairman voting.

*Virginia M. Barry*

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Secretary